THE NATIONAL ERA

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

VOL. IV.-NO. 32

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1850.

WHOLE NO. 188.

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh Street, opposite Odd Fellows' Hall.

Two dillars per annum, payable in advance.
Advertisements not exceeding ten lines inserter
three times for one dollar; every subsequent inser tion. twenty-five cents. All communications to the Era, whether business of the paper or for publication, show he addressed to G. Balley, Washington, D. C.

BUELL & BLANCHARD, PRINTERS,

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 5, 1850.

SKETCHES OF OUR VILLAGE. No. 3. OUR SCHOOLMISTRESS. BY MARTHA RUSSELL.

Not long since, while on a visit to some kin friends of mine, I found myself in the company f several ladies, who were discussing with much interest the subject of education, and the respective merits of several fashionable seminaries in that vicinity. Not feeling particularly interested in the subject, I joined my friend E-, in looking over Darley's graphic illustrations of Rip Van Winkle, and soon became so deeply absorbed that I heard only the murmur of their voices, occasionally broken by a word or two uttered in a shriller key, seeming like the echo of the voice of Rip's

I was suddenly recalled from this enchanted valley, by the voice of the fashionable Mrs. W -, exclaiming-

"Ab, yes, we will ask Miss R" Then laying The state of the state of the drown of the "You have hardly heard our argument, my dear

but we were speaking of the superior advantage which seminaries in the city possess over those in the country in all that relates to the true finish of a young lady's education. May we ask at what seminary you were educated ?"

There was something so bizarre, so ludicrous between the lady's expectant tone and the picture her words called up to my mind, that I could hardly repress a smile as the unvarnished truth rose to my lips; but one glance at her haughty face brought with it the memory of her wealth, her morbid exclusiveness, her horror of anything "native to the soil," and, let me confess the truth. reader, with a feeling strongly akin to cowardice, I evaded a direct reply by saying, "I was educa-

"Ah, you had a governess then. Your parent were so wise as to follow the good old English custom. I wish it was more fashionable here, for it is much to be preferred to our mixed boardingschools. I have sometimes thought I would employ a governess for Celestia, but it is so difficult to find one possessing all the requisite qualifications. Your friends must have been fortunate." My folly had brought its reward. I colored,

grew confused, embarrassed, and was trying to grew confused, embarrassed, and was trying to we; not only with the orthography of our les-stammer forth something, when I caught the clear sons, but the number of words in a column, the upon me, while a most provokingly quizzical smile gathered around his mouth. All at once my confusion vanished, and, raising my eyes to the lady's face, I said, quietly-

"I fear I have led you into a mistake, Mrs. W-. I should have said that I was educated chiefly at the district school in my native vil-

There was a slight, almost imperceptible raising of the lady's shoulders, and her bland air of respectful attention vanished at once, as she replied, with a slight drawl-

"Ah-ahem! I think I have heard Squire W-say that there have been some improvements in the common schools within a few years;" and, turning carelessly away, she began to discuss with her neighbor the last new design for crotches that had appeared in the Lady's Book.

"Coolly done, that," whispered E- "You must remember that a great gulf suddenly yawns between people sometimes, even in this world. For a moment I feared you would fail to see that little red school-house of which you so often speak, in the golden atmosphere that surrounds Mrs.

As other people besides Mrs. W --- sometim ask after my Alma Mater, I have determined to describe it, partly because I think "our school" was peculiar even in those days, and partly because I wish to daguerre a few traits of one who has long since been among the angels.

Should you ever chance to visit our village reader, you will find the main road from the west, for the space of two miles or so, clinging close to the foot of a rugged chain of hills, known as the Totoket range. On the left, you will have their precipitous front, in some places barren and bleak, and crowned by huge old cliffs-

Here dark with the thick moss of centuries And there of chalky whiteness, where the thunder

and in others, draped to the very summit with s mass of tangled green, through which rise the heads of the tall cedars, like watchful sentinels Very, very beautiful is the old mountain in the genial spring-time, when he unfurls his leafy banner and displays every shade of green, from the deep black hue of the cedar, to the pale, faint tinge of the buttonwood and the aspen, with the white blossoms of the dogwood peeping out from the midst like stars. And still beautiful is he, when the frosts of autumn have fallen upon him, and all the shows of summer have de parted; when the everlasting cedars, clothed to the very topmost branch in robes of flame-colored livery, stand, like old martyrs, lifting their upstretched arms to heaven, and hinting, not dimly, that God still speaketh from the midst of the burning bush, would we but listen.

On the right, the open country sweeps southward toward Long Island Sound, but so broken and undulating that you must ascend the mountain would you catch a glimpse of the blue water As you approach the village, a valley opens, in the midst of which sleep two small but beautiful sheets of water, separated only by a narrow, ribbon-like bit of green meadow. Winding around these, you may trace green lanes, cros and there by more public roads, and catch glimpse of the sharp roofs and heavy stone chimneys of old farm-houses, rising from amidst clusters of

Not a great many rods beyond this point, the mountain suddenly makes a turn to the north west, and, like the face of a stern fellow-traveler, relaxing into a smile at parting, smooths its rugged features, and with a gentle, loving arm, embraces our village and the valley north of it, snown among the early settlers as the pleasant land of Goshen" Here, for the first time you catch a view of the village, which looks like bird's nest hidden between the hills, and just where the last undulation of the mountain slopes ouse. I have spoken of its origin, and described its appearance in a previous sketch, but I said nothing of the old apple-tree whose houghs over-hung its roof; that appla-tree, which must, even as a germ, have had a kind of fore-feeling of its stiny, or surely its trunk would never have been garnished with such excellent knots for footholds, its limbs would never have twisted

that haid them? why, our sieds made nothing of it, but came darting like arrows from the hill above, and paused not until we landed on the opacter, as well as the occupations in which she

sound of the ferule on the window casement, the invariable signal which recalled us from our

the invariable signal which recalled us from our sports.

To my young readers, I would say, do not fancy that our school-room was anything like yours, with your convenient desks, your shaded windows, your globes, cabinets, and outline maps. Ours was a large, square room, lighted by six or eight windows, through which, during the long summer hours, came a flood of light and heat so intense as to dazzle the eyes and bewilder the brain of the strongest. Around three-sides of the room ran rude desks, to which were attached rough, narrow planks for benches, and inside of rough, narrow planks for benches, and inside of these was a row of similar benches for the smaller scholars. These were without any support for the back, and all of them so high that not more than one pair of feet out of a dozen could by any means contrive to touch the floor. The last side, with the exception of the space taken up for the door, was occupied by the great fire-place, which yawned from the door post to the opposite wall. In these utilitarian days, when

" Men scarcely know how beautiful fire is," such fires as we used to have are a rarity. No wonder that the great wooden beam which served "Ab, yes, we will ask Miss R." Then laying for a mantel-piece took fire almost every day, her jewelled hand on my shoulder, as if not quite even though the inventor of friction matches, on hase unfortunets head the old monle lage lay the blame of all the fires which have desolated city and country for several years, was

desolated city and country for several years, was not bet 1

Aht those great blazing, cracking fires will never be forgotten. The heart of the sailor turns back to them, as he paces the deck through the weary night-watches, with the rain and sleet driving in his face, while the biting north wind covers his long locks and shaggy pea-jacket with glittering icicles; and brightly do they gleam and glow in the restless dreams of more than one famished, benumbed gold-seeker, as he sinks down to his last sleep amid the snows of the Rocky Mountains

Of maps, we had none; I doubt whether such

Of maps, we had none; I doubt whether such an article ever saw the inside of the Red schoolan article ever saw the inside of the Red schoolhouse, and the Japanese might have been next
door neighbors to us, for aught we knew or cared.
The labors of Lindley Murray, Horne Tooke,
Webster, Ashe, Greenleaf, and Brown, were considered as entirely supercrogatory by both teachers and parents. Indeed, so strong was this prejudice against grammar, that when it was introduced into our schools, some years later, the
teachers seldom made any application of its rules.
We were taught to repeat it by rote, and in this
way I studied grammar for several years, and
could repeat the whole, from Etymology to Syntax, without being able to construe correctly a
single sentence. In the same manner we studied
Orthography and Prosody, as laid down in the
early editions of Webster's Spelling-book. I
doubt whether any children were ever more famillar with that same Spelling-book than were miliar with that same Spelling-book than were on each page, every typographical error, to say nothing of the hours we spent in studying the beauties of those specimens of art that illustrated the fables, counting the apples on the tree in the fable of "The Old Man and Rude Boy," or the fable of "The Old Man and Rude Boy," or the exact number of flies composing the awarm that tormented the poor "Fox in the Bramble." In reading, spelling, and arithmetic, we were, to a certain degree, more carefully drilled, and a clear, well-written copy-book was the teacher's and pupil's pride on the day of examination. Thus, with the occasional diversion of "Choos-ing Sides" in spelling, and a grand pitched battle with snow-balls between our boys and their rivals of the White school we passed the winter.

with snow-balls between our boys and the winter. In of the White school, we passed the winter. In the summer, when the large boys were busy in the summer, when the large boys were both laid the fields, writing and arithmetic were both laid aside, and in their place we had patchwork with all its endless variations, marking, embroidery, stitching, and plain sewing. For the qualifications of our teacher in the last, I can well vouch, for I have a very distinct recollection of her com-pelling me to rip the wristband three times from the first shirt sleeve I ever made, because, for-sooth, I did not catch every gather.

It is of this teacher, or mistress, for the term was peculiarly appropriate in those days, I wish to speak. I have mused much upon her charac-

to speak. I have mused much upon her charac-ter, and she ever seems to have been of those unto whom it is appointed to be "made perfect through suffering." Her whole life was a combat—a struggle with physical weakness and pain. Hour after bour have I seen her walk the school-room with rapid, uneven steps, her long, thin fingers clenched together, her pale lips parted, while the great drops of perspiration started on her brow, yet not a word or murmur ever escaped her; and when the paroxysm was past, her voice was low and gentle as the south wind after a storm. Her tall, spare figure, and thin, pale face, bore unmis-takeable traces of this warfare; but there was a light in her great, dark eyes, clear, serene, and luminous, as that of the fixed stars, which spake of conquest, and a hope centered in Him "in whom there is no variableness nor shadow of

whom there is no variableness nor shadow of turning."
Husbandless and childless, possessing a sufficiency of this world's goods, it was a matter of surprise to many, that she did not seek that life of ease which her delicate health seemed to require. But she feared the ennui and selfishness of a life of idleness; she felt intuitively that—

"Something the heart must have to cherish; that no woman can be happy without some occu-pation, some interest in life; therefore she took charge of the village school for many a pleasant

The children became her children; in their progress, pleasures, troubles, and difficulties, she rejoiced or sorrowed; and if she could not teach the "higher branches," no one better possessed the secret of inculcating in the minds of the children habits of strict honesty, reverence to-ward God and our elders, kindness and forbear-ance toward each other, and courtesy toward all

men.

She was fond of poetry, especially devotional poetry, and rhymed herself with great facility. Her approbation of our conduct was generally expressed in rhyme, on small, equare pieces of paper, ornamented with various devices in red and green ink. But the highest proof of her approval, the one I prized most, was permission to take a small book which she kept laid away, choicely, in her desk, containing poems for children, by Mrs. Barbauld, Jane Taylor, and others, and to go forth an hour or so, with a companion of my own choosan hour or so, with a companion of my own choosing, and lie in the deep shadow of the thick-leaved trees, or perchance sit perched up in the old apple-tree, while we committed one or more to memory, to be recited on our return to the school-room. Another method of manifesting her aproom. Another method of manifesting her approbation was to send us forth in parties of three and four, to commit to memory the inscriptions on the stones in the adjacent grave-yards. On a pleasant summer afternoon, when the sun began to sink behind the mountain and the shadows to lengthen, the passing traveller might have seen half a dozen little girls, wandering cautiously among the sunken graves, or seated amid the tall grass at the foot of some old slab of red sandstone, tracing the lugubrious incription with their tiny

A friend to whom I related this peculiar trai in my early education the other day, laughingly

in my early education the other day, laughingly remarked—

"And to these youthful 'Meditations among the Tombs' may be traced your present literary tastes, I suppose."

Doubtless they were not without an influence upon us, for I remember some curious thoughts and speculations passed through my head as I sat there, such as I would not have been likely to have spoken of to any one, certainly not to any older than myself.

We always commenced our morning exercises by repeating a poem called "Daily Duty," and closed at noon with another entitled "Hossanah."

I do not remember much of either, but I do remember how hungry I used to be before we got through with the last, which was somewhat lengthy, and how many times I have reached be-

themselves into such admirable seats for children, and its blossoms would never have been the earliest and most fragrant of the season. It was truly the tree of knowledge of good and evil to us urchins, for many a pleasant half hour we sat perched up amidst its branches, watching the swallows that built their nests in the belfry of the Episcopal church across the way, or mocking the bob-o'-linkums in the meadows of the river.

Moreover, from the foot of the trunk sprang divers singularly smooth, straight shoots, which sometimes found their way into a certain corner of the school-room, as incentives to learning by the inverse method.

Then, that length of fence under the appletree—never were rails so smooth or so capitally arranged for climbing; blessings on the hand that laid them? why, our sleds made nothing of it, but came darting like arrows from the hill lines, which will serve to illustrate her charitests.

EXERCISE THE BEST PHYSICIAN. "My dear, I have been spinning tow, And I desire to have you know How very well and strong I feel; My best physician is my wheel. If you should see me at my wheel, Perhaps you would think I'd never reel But I can whin ten knots a day— A noble task for me, you'll say. It strengthens all my frame, I find, And does lavigorate my mind, And makes my spirit cheerful too All the result of spinning tow.

I've put aside my easy chair, No longer do I need to wear My blanket and my shawl, and sit As if I had an ague fit. Nor do I sigh and cry 'ch. dear! I shall be Ill again, I fear." But I am cheerful now, and feel Quite grateful to my Doctor Wheel."

The spot where the Red school-house stood is oth green bank, the old apple-tree is gone, now a smooth green bank, the old apple-tree is gone, and the old rail-fence superseded by a rough, tum-bling-down-looking stone wall. Time and Death have worked their will upon that merry flock of children, and she who for so many pleasant sum-mers moved in our midst like a guiding angel, has long since "passed through don't use o life."

CONGRESS. THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS - FIRST SESSION.

> SENATE. TURSDAY, JULY 30, 1850.

Mr. Davis of Massachusetts presented the credentials of Robert C. Winthrop, appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts, Senator from that State in place of Mr. Webster, resigned.

Mr. Pearce, from the committee appointed to investigate the difficulty between Messrs. Benton and Foote, made a report, censuring the toleration which has been shown to personalities in the Senate, but recommending no action. The report was accompanied by a large mass of evidence, and the whole was ordered to be printed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the bill reported by the select Committee of

the bill reported by the select Committee of Thirteen—to admit California into the Union as a State; providing Territorial Governments for Utah and New Mexico; and making proposals to Texas for the setttlement of her western and

The question pending was on the following amendment by Mr. Bradbury:
Strike out the 39th section (containing the

Strike out the 39th section (containing the proposals to Texas) and insert:

"That the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint three Commissioners, who shall have power to agree with such Commissioners as may be appointed under the legislative authority of the State of Texas, upon the territory properly included withing and significantly belonging to the State of Texas. at the time of her annexation to the United States or at any period since that date, and to define and establish the limits of the same if they shall find establish the limits of the same if they shall not it practicable to do so; and in case they shall be unable to agree upon the true and legitimate boundary of the State of Texas, they are hereby authorized to agree upon a convenient line of boundary between the territory of the United States and the said State of Texas, commencing at the point where the Red river is intersected. by the 100th degree of west longitude, being the southwest angle of the Indian territory, and run southwest angle of the Indian territory, and run-ning to a point on the Rio Grande, to be agreed upon by the said Commissioners; and also to agree upon the terms, conditions, and considera-tion, upon which such line shall be established; and the proceedings and agreements of the said Commissioners shall be, as soon as possible, transmitted to the President of the United States, to be by him submitted to Congress for its approval and action thereupon; and the said agreement, when approved by the Congress of the United States and the Legislature of the State

United States and the Legislature of the State of Texas, shall be obligatory upon the parties."

Mr. Sebastian moved to amend the amendment by striking out of it the words, "commencing at the point where the Red river is intersected by the 100th degree of west longitude, being the southwest angle of the Indian territory, and running to a point on the Rio Grande;" and the motion to amend was lost.

Mr. Dawson moved to amend the amendment. Mr. Dawson moved to amend the amendmen

Mr. Dawson moved to amend the amendment to the amendment by adding thereto:

And be it further enacted, That until such time as the boundary line between the State of Texas and the territory of the United States be agreed to by the Legislature of the State of Texas and to by the Legislature of the State of Texas and the Government of the United States, the Territorial Government authorized by this act shall not go into operation east of the Rio Grande, nor shall any State be established for New Mexico embracing any territory east of the Rio Grande.

Mr. Benton opposed the amendment; he said the plain English of it was that the territory east of the Rio Grande was to be ceded to the State of Texas.

Mesers. Clay, Butler, Dawson, Foote, Rusk Measrs. Douglas, Miller, Ewing, Underwood, and Benton, opposed the amendment.

Mr. Walker said that it was apparent for some days that the friends of the hill desired to satis-

fy Texas, and as it was also becoming apparent that Texas was not to be satisfied, he moved to lay the bill on the table.

And the question being taken, the motion did not prevail.

YEAS-Messre. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton YEAS—Meesrs. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton, Butler, Chase, Clarke, Davis of Massachusetta, Davis of Mississippi, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Ewing, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Hunter, Mason, Miller, Phelps, Seward, Smith, Turney, Upham, Walker, Winthrop, and Yulee—25.

NAYS—Meesrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Berrien, Bradbury, Bright, Cass, Clay, Clemens, Cooper, Dawson Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Foote, Houston, Jones, King, Mangum, Morton, Norris, Pearce, Pratt, Rusk, Schistian, Sprusnee, Sturgeon, Underwood, Wales, and Whitcomb—32.

The question was then taken, and the amend-

Wales, and Whitcomb—32.

The question was then taken, and the amendment of Mr. Dawson to the amendment of Mr. Bradbury was agreed to by the following vote:
YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Barnwell, Bell, Berrien, Butler, Clay, Clemens, Cooper, Davis of Mississippi, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Downs, Foote, Houston, Hunter, Jones, King, Masgum, Mason, Morton, Phelps, Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Soulé, Sturgeon, Turney, and Yulee—30.

Yulee-30. Navs-Messra Baldwin, Benton, Bradbury Bright, Chase, Clarke, Davis of Massachusetts, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Douglas, Ewing, Felch, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Miller, Norris, Pearce, Seward, Shields, Smith, Sprunnee, Un-derwood, Upham, Wales, Walker, Whitcomb,

and Winthrop—28.

The question recurring on the amendment of

Ygas-Messra. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Ber rien, Bradbury, Bright, Casa, Clay, Clemens, Cooper, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Foote, Houston, Hun-ter, Jones, King, Mangum, Norris, Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Shields, Sturgeon, Walker, and Whit-

ys-Messrs. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton NAYS—Messrs. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton, Butler, Chase, Clarke, Davis of Massachusetts, Davis of Mississippi, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Ewing, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Mason, Miller, Morton, Phelps. Seward, Smith, Soulé, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Upham, Wales, Winthrop, and Yulee—28.

Mr. Walker moved that the last thirty-five sections of the bill be stricken out, leaving the bill with only those provisions which relate to the admission of California.

Mr. Norris then moved to strike out from the tenth section of the bill, limiting the legislative powers of the Territorial Legislature, the words, "nor establishing or prohibiting African ela-

Mr. Berrien raised a point of order. The Senate had inserted a part of those words; was it now in order to strike them out? The Presiding Officer ruled the motion to be in

Mr. Downs, Mr. Turney, and Mr. Foote, opposed the motion.

Mr. Pratt and Mr. Phelps supported the amend.

Mr. Clay supported the amendment, and Mr. Phelps replied to Messrs. Clay and Tur-

Messrs. Berrien, Cass, and Foote, continued the discussion upon the powers of Congress, and the inherent rights of the people of the Territo-

Mr. Hale asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered; and the question being taken, re-Yass—Messrs Badger, Barnwell, Bell, Clemens, Ewing, Hunter, Mangum, Pearce, Phelps, and Yulee—10.

and Yulee—10.

Navs—Messrs. Atchison, Benton, Bradbury, Bright, Butler, Cas, Chase, Clarke, Clay, Cooper, Davis of Mississippi, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Foote, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Houston, Jones, King, Mason, Miller, Morton, Norris, Pratt, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Smith, Soulé, Sormance, Sturger, Torrey, Hader-Soule, Spruance, Sturgeon, Turney, Underwood, Wales, Walker, Whitcomb, and Win-

throp-43.
Mesers. Berrien, Foote, and Downs, continued Mr. Davis of Mississippi obtained the floor, when he gave way to Mr. Seward, who moved that the Senate ad

And the Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. TURSDAY, JULY 30, 1850.

The motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill granting 160 acres of the public lands without are to be public lands without are to be whole on the state of the Union, coming up in order, Mr. Evans, who had tak those, there is a lay it on the table. Agreed

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. On motion of Mr. Bayly, the California message was laid

of Mr. Bayly, the California message was laid aside by a vote of 95 to 68.

The bill making appropriations for revolutionary and other pensions was taken up. Mr. Putnam of New York delivered a speech on the Slavery Question, presenting the Northern view.

The committee rose, reported the bill to the House, and, under the operation of the previous question, it was passed.

The House again went into Committee of the Whole on the state the Union, and took up the Navy Pension bill. This was put through with similar despatch, reported to the House, and, under the operation of the previous question, was passed.

passed.

The House went into Committee, took up the Fortification bill. The Committee rose, the House passed a resolution to terminate debate in two hours, and then resolved itself again into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. A debate took place, the Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

For the National Era GREENWOOD LEAVES.

Thanks that thou wearest no veil! Because, sweet lady, Thy veil were as a cloud shutting out heaven— An envious blight across the Calla's snow. Throbe proudly at thy name; full many a lie And many have stolen away to draperied halls loitered in the city's crowded avenues-With thee for their one thought.

When, late, June breathed her bleasing o'er our h Purpling their chambers with her wifely blush. Diamonded like a queen. Those large, soft eyes Proud, bathed in darkness spiritual as the ray Of farthest nebulæ-yet morning twinned With April on an anstral, green savanna Those glorious, mournful eyes! I saw their lashe Heavy with glistening dew: the while thy lips In dainty dimples curled, two crimson buds Quivering through amber waves beneath the stars Beyond what angels told. Thy lofty soul, So swetly tender and so proudly true, Hath wrought its own clear outlines in the sweet Of thy poor features; warmed the generous blood Which ripens the olive on thy changeful cheek; And through the arch play of thy loveliest limbs. The light, caresaing fall of thy small fingers, ight, careasing fall or any thed its own grace and beauty. Those whose eyes

So oft have kissed thy slumbering lide, so oft Have blessed thy dear regards what time the shafts-Blent odors, starlight, echoes of sweet sounds Chases coy sleep away, were in the air, That now those broad lids, when they droop, eclipse Less of the earth than heavenly; those sweet looks Seem franchised from all shade of earthly care Save what meek sorrow thrills thy sister heart In love and pity for a race in tears. My soul once wandering on an isle remote in a deep cavern by the sounding sea, Came where the Recording Angel, saruest-eyed, And smiling with sweet haughtiness, kept record Of all Earth's daughters, gifted good, or fair— A list of lovely names, carven in jewels. Or traced in fire along the glowing heart
Of the rare chrysolite; and those whose thoughts
Were radiant with the aureole of Poesis—
The emerald kept their glorious memory green. Freshening the herbage where they walk unseen Have made a hundred happy, and embalmed Those good and gentle, such as every heart That mother's truest type-their names were wrough I sought two dear words, graceful, musical,

Hinting of woodland isles and clustering leaves.
I found them in the chrysolite: her heauty
Is dark and beamy like the scintillant gem. The emerald wore them in its forcet has, Quick with rich life—like her own sparkling songs Of most sweet exultation, for I knew Of bay and myrtle on her maiden breast, And, diamond broidered on the flashing silver, 'Mid proudest names—pale martyrs, throned queer Whose years were writ in blessings, saintly wives With their lords' praises wreathing their gray locks Daughters, true sisters, virgins pure as light, I read and kissed GRACE GRHENWOOD'S honored name Washington, July, 1850.

For the National Ers. MR. DURKEE'S SPEECH. A VOICE FROM THE AGED.

In publishing the soulfull speech of the Hon Charles Durkee of Wisconsin, I observed that you accompanied it by no word of comment whatever. I inferred the reason of your silence to be the allusions to your own history, as an advocate of glorious truths of Anti-Slavey Reform, made of glorious truths of Anti-Slaver, went, with

Now, I feel that such a rare speech as Mr

the pen of one who has passed his allotted "three score and ten" in the ranks of our moral army. To the Free-Soilers, one and all, I hope it will prove a very bugle blast, urging them on to the conflict, nerved more firmly than ever for that great conflict of Truth with Error, whose crisis hour seems to be at length approaching!

J. E. S., A SOUTHERN FREE-SOILER.

LIBERTY PARTY CONVENTION.—This conven-tion, composed of Gerrit Smith, Wm. Goodell, and others, who withdrew from the mass of the

and others, who withdrew from the mass of the Liberty party on the nomination of John P. Hale for President, recently held a Convention in Syracuse, New York. Their distinctive principle is, that Congress has power, under the Constitution, to abolish slavery in the States. From the report of their proceedings in the New York Tribune, we select the following:

1. Resolved, That passing events do but deepen our conviction, that a sectarian religion is the greatest hindrance to the deliverance of the slave.

2. Resolved, That every Slaveholding Government is but a piracy; and that, hence, if pirates invade Cuba or South Carolina, Brazil or Georgia, there is no more reason why Abolitionists and believers in righteous civil Governments should

sympathise with the invaded than the invading 3. Resolved. That the Covernment is deeply unjust which disfranchises women which denies its subjects the right to buy and sell freely what they please; which permits the sale of intoxicating drinks; which consumes the earnings of its subjects in wars; which tolerates or practices Land Monopoly; which refuses to the accused or to any party litigant the right of having his cause tried by judges and juvors who are not members of secret societies; or which sanctions or permits secret societies; or which sanctions or permits the practice of the matchless crime of Slavery

POLYNESIAN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the National Era: My DEAR SIR : I send you a single number of the Polynesian, Government paper, together with this sheet, to the care of Lewis Tappan, Esq., our mutual friend. He will forward you this and the paper, and, perhaps, make some other communications from me. I shall write in a small band, as I wish to say many things, and say them in as small a space as possible. I will, however, try to write pto in so that the labor of

nowever, try to write p' 'n so that the labor of reading may not cost you more an the intelligence is worth.

In the Polynesian which I send, you will see "Resolutions passed by the King, in privy council, the 21st day of December, A. D. 1849." These, I hope, you will give your readers. I think you will rejoice, as friends of Humanity and Liberty, in the residue of the productions of the pr presses in those editorial remarks. I also sympathize with the poor Hawaiians in the joy which they may be supposed to feel, which they all ought to feel, and which many of them doubtless do feel, on reading those resolutions. For next to the Gospel of the blessed God, nothern and the second sec ing half so important has reached their ears since it was announced that the "gods of Hawaii are

As I have heretofore written you on the subject of "land purchases," and have expressed my fears that the country would be sold to foreign-ers, allow me, if consistent, to remark briefly on the resolutions. And you may be desirous of knowing through whose influence the prospects of the people have been so strikingly changed for the better. What I know on this subject will tell you. The influence of the mission, an of those formerly connected with the mission, has been made to bear steadily on this subject for many years, and has been greatly strengthenin of late. The influence of Lafon, the noble, grea of late. The influence of Lafon, the noble, great-hearted friend of Humanity, and of the late Ed-win Locke, both formerly of the mission, was par-ticularly powerful and salutary. So of others now in the field. The chiefs have been instructed that it was not only their duty to put their people in possession of their lands, but that it was their highest policy to do so. They have been addressed publicly and in private, and appeals have been made to them through the press. What has been said publicly, and through the solumns of the native newspaper, has reached the columns of the native newspaper, has reached the ear and the eye of the common people, and they have thus learned more fully their own rights. In compliance with our advice, they have respectfully but earnestly petitioned the King and chiefs to sell them small farms.

Another thing. You are aware that I have acted as agent for the Government in disposing of lands in this district. Some 2,000 acres I have lands in this district. Some 2,000 acres I have sold, and the greater part of it to the people. Every native in Makawas has a small farm, or might have had. I do not at this moment recollect of an individual in the place who has not purchased more or less land, though some few have sold out. Now, this experiment at Makawas may have had some influence in inducing the chiefs to adopt the Now, this experiment at Makawas may have had some influence in inducing the chiefs to adopt the resolutions above given; at least it had the effect of increasing the desire of the people to obtain homes for themselves and their children. I confidently expected, from the time we obtained permission to sell these lands, that this would be the result, and I am happy in the belief that this result has been so speedily and safely obtained.

Others besides the missionaries had done all in their power to induce the chiefs to sell, and the people to purchase lands. Judge William L. Lee I will name, because with him I have had much conversation on this subject, and I understand his views better than I do those of any other man out of the mission. At a public meeting at Molokai, last year, I heard his glowing exhortation to the people, to obtain lands. He assured them that the only hope of the national existence of the Hawaiian race was in their obtaining lands. The middle and lower classes, said he, must have lands, or all is lost. He then said, with great earnestness, "Ask for your lands, beg for your lands, fight for your lands"

Mr. Wyllie and others have also advocated the rights of the people to lands. The Polynesian

rights of the people to lands. The Polynesian newspaper has taken the same ground. Of late, a good deal has been said by the editor and cor-respondents of that paper. You can easily see through whose influence the above resolutions

were passed.

2d. The passing of those resolutions was an act creditable to the chiefs.

It is well known that Hawaiian chiefs have gained the unenviable reputation of being oppressors of their people. That oppression has been rife among the rulers of all these islands, at all acquainted with their history prebeen rife among the rulers of all these islands, no one at all acquainted with their history pre-tends to deny. And the chiefs have oppressed tends to deny. their subjects on the ground that the lands all belonged to them; that their own right in the soil was absolute and exclusive. And though things have of late years been improving, still there has all along been not a little grinding of the faces of the poor by land proprietors and land owners. Up to the passing of the resolutions above refer-red to, the requisitions for labor made by chiefs and headmen were so exorbitant, that no civilized people would have submitted a single month.

Now, if these resolutions are carried into effect,
all this kind of labor will cease, and this kind of

You can see at once, Mr. Editor, that it must have cost the chiefs no little struggle, to give this all up. Considering the long standing of the labor tax, and the natural indolence of the chiefs; also their love of rule and love of money, they do deserve much credit. And I am sure they will secure commendation; and God will bless them for it, so that they will find that no man, be he a chief or a day laborer, will be the poorer for doing right. In selling lands also to the people, instead of letting it all go to foreigners, they show a disposition to do right, and they deserve credit for so doing; and this they will secure, too, I am persuaded.

age in which we live—freedom for the slave—freedom for all—protection for man as man."

3d. If the resolutions are curried into effect, feedom for all—protection for man as man."

1 see not, other things being equal, why the peoto follow Truth? I presume he is in middle, if near not become a prosperous community. I mean by this, provided no foreign Power shall not early life. May God spare him to be a mighty worker for Liberty and Justice! I am among the aged, (nearly seventy,) but I have yet physical and mental strength to labor, and I will do what I can."

After that inspiring message, the venerable writer turns to a class of which Mr. Durkee is one, and adds: "All hail to the noble band of Free-Soilers in Congress! My daily prayer in that they may be strong in this great moral conflict! Rely upon it, that the anti-slavery sentiment is growing rapidly among the People. Statement is growing rapidly among the resolutions, taken away all excuse from the mouths of tracted. Let us have confidence in Truth!"

To that I desire to say that were I a member of Contract. I want the providence, as dead, in case his motion to strike out prevailed, to move to reinsert all of it again with the exception of the amendment without moving of T. Daw on any parliamentary goode by which he could reach that amendment without moving to strike out all the rest, the would conform with pleasure to the august of the rest, and any parliamentary goode by which he could reach that amendment without moving to strike out all that the rest, he would conform with pleasure to the august of the rest, and any parliamentary goode by

not owning the little spot even on which their cottage stands, they had no heart to make improvements about them. Though this is true in regard to the state of things formerly, yet I am fully persuaded that many have employed the language as a mere apology for idleness. But they can employ it no longer. I greatly rejoice in the course taken by Government in passing resolutions which will take away all the excuses and apologies for idleness. If the people now refuse to seek land, if they prefer horses, or silk garments, or other articles of finery, to comfortable homes, if they defer purchasing till the time passes by, and the lands are thrown into market and taken up by foreigners, on them be the responsibility. That many will let this golden opportunity slip, and continue to live as wretchedly as formerly, I have no doubt.

I am about starting on a short excursion through

I am about starting on a short excursion through a part of my field, through Kula, the potato country, concerning which Mr. Hall speaks in the Polymesian which I send you. Many of the people of that district have of late made money very rapidly, by selling the Irish potato. I shall do all I can to induce them to secure the lands without dolor. without delay. So also in relation to other parts of my field. I shall urge the Government officers to do all they can to have the resolutions of the

posable. The lands must be surveyed and divi-ded into lots; and agents chosen to negotiate with the people; and other arrangement to put them in possession of their homes. Some to put them in possession of their homes Some time must clapse ere all can be done satisfactorily, but patience and perseverance will do everything.

If I am spared, you shall hear again on this subject. In the mean time, pray for us and the people, that God will bless and save them for His Son's sake. Yours, with respect, J. S. GREEN.

P. S.—I am sorry to say that it is a time ickness among the people.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE. WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1850.

HOW THE OMNIBUS BILL WAS OVERSET, AND THE PASSENGERS TUMBLED OUT.

The report of the Committee of Thirteen was aken up, its friends feeling confident that this day would witness the passage of what is called the Omnibus Bill. Preparation had, we learn, been made in this city and elsewhere, to hail its triumph by fire-rockets and gunpowder explosions. It was supposed that the adoption of Mr. Dawson's amendment, the day previous, had secured beyond doubt the votes of the Texan Senators, and consequently a majority in favor of the bill. But, in the passing of such liberal resolutions by a Government hitherto sufficiently oppressive. You Government hitherto sufficiently oppressive. You will see what the editor of our paper has to say on the subject. I cordially sympathize with sacrifice of preconceived opinion, and at immiing more than fair to conform the bill, as far as possible, to the theory of territorial rights laid down in the Nicholson Letter Mr. Norris of New Hampshire, who is under instructions to vote for the Wilmot Proviso, and the admission of California unencumbered, but who on every incidental question voted uniformly so as to keep the Omnibus bill before the Senate, and promote its success, moved to strike out from the 10th section, the words, "or establishing or prohibiting slavery." General Cass, in his Nicholson Letter. took the ground that the people of a Territory have the sole and exclusive right to regulate their own concerns, including the subject of

slavery, in their own way. On this principle, he and his followers had gone into the Presidential canvass of 1849. The bill originally reported, prohibited the Territories from passing any law " respecting African slavery." The three last words, at the instance of the ultra Southern men, were substituted by the words "or establishing or prohibiting slavery." The section as originally re-ported, and as amended, was in direct conflict with the doctrine and position of General Cass. If he and his friends should vote for it, they would give the lie to all they asserted and argued in 1848-The design of Mr. Norris in moving to strike out the restriction on the Territorial Legislature, was to accommodate the bill to the Cass platform, Mr. Clay appealed to Southern Senators in behalf of the motion of Mr. Norris, reminding them that the design was to conform the bill to the policy of Non-Intervention, a great Southern doetrine, for which General Cass and his followers had suffered so much in the free States. The appeal was successful. Several Southern men responded, and the Free-Soilers of course voted for the motion, not unwilling to leave the hands of the Territorial Legislature untied, and to render the bill as unacceptable as possible to the Southern

The motion of Mr. Norris prevailed by the fol-

lowing vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Badger, Baldwin, Bell, Bradbury, Bright, Cass, Chase, Clarke, Clay, Cooper, Dayton, Dickinson, Dodge of lows, Douglas, Felch, Greene, Hamlin, Jones, Mangum, Miller, Norris, Phelps, Pratt, Seward, Shields, Smith, Spruance, Sturgeon, Underwood, Upham, Wales, and Winthrop—32.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Barnwell, Benton, Berrien, Butler, Davis of Mississippi, Dawson, Downs, Ewing, Hunter, King, Mason, Morton, Pearce, Rask, Soulé, Turney, Walker, Whitcomb, and Yulee—20.

There can be but little doubt that the bill by

this vote was somewhat weakened in the South. Then followed a movement which utterly disappointed the calculations of the special friends of the bill. They had exulted in the passage of Dawson's amendment, abandoning all of New Mexico claimed by Texas, and yielding to the latter an implied title, supposing it had insured the success of their measure; but the hoop, driven down on one side, flew up on the other. . That amendment proved the death of the bill. Texas bragged too high, and lost all.

bragged too high, and lost all.

Mr. Pearce, the able and independent member from Maryland, moved to strike out from the 22d section to the 39th, inclusive, containing all that part of the bill relating to a Territorial Government for New Mexico, and the provisions yesterday inserted, relating to the boundary of Texas. He said that his object in making the motion was to get rid of the provision yesterday inserted on motion of the Senator from Georgia, (Mr. Dawson,) which put a Territorial Government in operation over the few inhabitants west of the Rio Grande, and left those on the east side subject to such laws as the few on the west might think proper to adopt. He desired, by his motion, to reinstate what he proposed to strike out, with the exception of what he considered objectionable, and for which he could not vote. The amendment gave an implied recognition of title in Texas to the land in dispute. To this he was opposed.

Mr. Clay said he regretted that the Sanator from Maryland had moved to strike out that part of the bill relating to the adjustment of the Texas boundary. If it were not altogether right, it could be amended. There were amendments already spoken of—one of which was that the Territorial Government should not go into operation, either on the seast or west side of the Rio Grande. He opposed the metion at length.

Mr. Pearce said that the object of his motion was not, as had been stated, to defeat the important part of the bill providing for the adjustment of Miscissippi, Dawson, Dickinson, Badger, 1 of Miscissippi, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodg Douglas, Downs, Felch, Foote, Houston

metr to make exercion; to by the Legislature of the State of Texas an

demand of Texas, Mr. Pearce and Judge Underwood, Whig Senators from slave States, found in it an insuperable objection to voting for the bill.

Mr. Shields of Illinois, who the day before, at the instance of General Houston, on the impulse of the moment, had changed his vote from the there is no more reason why Abolitionists and there is no more reason why Abolitionists and believers in righteous civil Governments should to do all they can to have the resolutions of the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to do all they can to have the resolutions of the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the invaded than the invading to the sympathiae with the sympat judgment, and that he was glad that the Senator

from Maryland had made his motion, as it would give him an opportunity to put himself right and do justice. Messrs. Rusk and Houston were indignanttalked of Texas wrongs, Texas forbearance, Texas valor, and all that; and they let it be un-

derstood that Texas could not consent to Mr. Pearce's motion. It will be observed that Mr. Bradbury and Mr. Norris, whose States have reiterated their attach ment to the Wilmot Proviso, now voted against

laying upon the table a bill in which the Proviso was repudiated. The substitute of Mr. Douglas was rejectedvens 24. navs 33.

Mr. Turney moved the indefinite postponement of the hill, and the question was taken with the following result :

YEAS—Messrs. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton, Butler, Chase, Clarke, Clemens, Davis of Massachusetts, Davis of Mississippi, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Ewing, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Houston, Hunter, Mason, Miller, Phelps, Rusk, Seward, Smith, Soulé, Turney, Upham, Walker, Winthrop, and Yulee—29.

NAVS—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Berrien, Bradbuy, Brights. Cass. Clay. Cooper. Day. ance, Sturgeon, Underwood, Wales, and Whit

Messrs Rusk and Houston, having failed to extort concessions to the exorbitant demands of Texas, were now willing to defeat the whole bill,

as their votes in the affirmative show. Mr. Atchison said that when such a motion was in order, he would move to strike out of the bill everything relating to California. Texas had seen stricken out, New Mexico was also outthere were none in the omnibus now but Califor-nia and Utah. He considered that the applica-tion of Utah was the only on becoming in a Ter-ritory of the United States to make. She had asked for a Government, and was willing to take what we chose to give her. He considered California the heaviest passenger in the omnibus.

There were serious objections to her admission, and it had been said she had been delayed nine months; he would now say that, unless she came into the Union by such a measure as this, he would vote to delay her nine years.

Mr. Badger. Forever. Mr. Atchison. Yes, forever.

Messrs. BADGER and ATCHISON must stand com mended to the American People, as gentlemen of great liberality and unexampled patriotism. Mr. Underwood moved to amend Mr. Pearce's

mendment, by striking out the Proviso. Lost-

yeas 26, nays 32. Mr. Yulee moved to strike from the amendment the provision for the appointment of commission ers, and this motion was carried—yeas 29, nays 28. A motion by Mr. Badger to adjourn, was lost. dr. Chase moved that the bill be indefinitely

The motion was disagreed to by the following

YEAS-Mesers. Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton YEAS—Mesers. Baldwin, Barnweit, Benton, Butler, Chase, Clarke, Clemens, Davis of Massa-chusetts, Davis of Mississippi, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Ewing, Greene, Hamlin, Hunter, Mason, Miller. Phelps, Rusk, Sebestian, Seward, Smith, Soulé. Turney, Upham, Walker, Winthrop,

and Yulee—28.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Berrien, Bradbury, Bright, Cass, Clay, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Foote, Houston, Jones, King, Mangum, Morton, Norris, Pearce, Pratt, Shields, Spruance, Sturgeon, Underwood, Wales, and Whitcomb—29. A motion to adjourn was lost-yeas 14, nays 42 The question then recurred on the insertion of

The question then recurred on the insertion of the amendment of Mr. Pearce—being now simply the same provisions for the Territorial Government of New Mexico as reported by the committee, with his provise that the said Government was not to go into effect till the 4th of March, 1851—and being taken, resulted as follows:

YEAS—Mesers Atchison, Badger, Bell, Berrien, Bradbury, Bright, Cass, Clemens, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of lows, Douglas, Downs, Falch, Foote, Jones, King, Mangum, Norris, Pearce, Pratt, Spruance, Underwood, Wales, and Whitcomb—25.

Nava-Mesers. Baldwin, Barnwell, Be Butler, Chase, Clarke, Davis of Massachusetts
Davis of Mississippi, Dayton, Dodge of Wisson
sin, Ewing, Greene, Hamlin, Houston, Hunter
Mason, Miller, Morton, Phelps, Rusk, Seward
Smith, Soolé, Turney, Upham, Walker, Winthrop, and Yulee—28.

So the Senate refused to insert, and the bill now contained but twenty-one sections, the first four relating to California, and the remaining seventeen relating to the Territory of Utah.

The Presiding Officer stated the question now to be on the motion of Mr. Walker (made yesterday) to strike out all of the bill except those sections relating to California.

terday) to strike out all of the bill except those sections relating to California.

Mr. Davis of Mississippi moved to amend the fifth section by changing the western boundary of Utah, extending it into the limits defined in the Constitution of California as her boundaries. The question was taken by year and nays, and decided in the negative—yeas 22, nays 34.

Ball Ranton Chy. Passes Sprannes Haden.

Bell, Benton, Clay, Pearce, Spruance, Under wood, and Wales, from the slave States, voting Mr. Downs moved an adjournment. The question was taken by year and nays, and decided is

tion was taken by yeas and nays, and decided the negative—yeas 16, nays 38.

The question recurring on the motion of 1 Walker, (to strike from the bill all except the sections relating to California,) it was decided the negative, by yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS—Mesers Baldwin, Benton, Bright, Ch Clarke, Davis of Massachusette, Dayton, Do of Wisconsin, Ewing, Greene, Hamilin, Mil Phelps, Seward, Shielda, Smith, Spranner, Males Walker, Walk